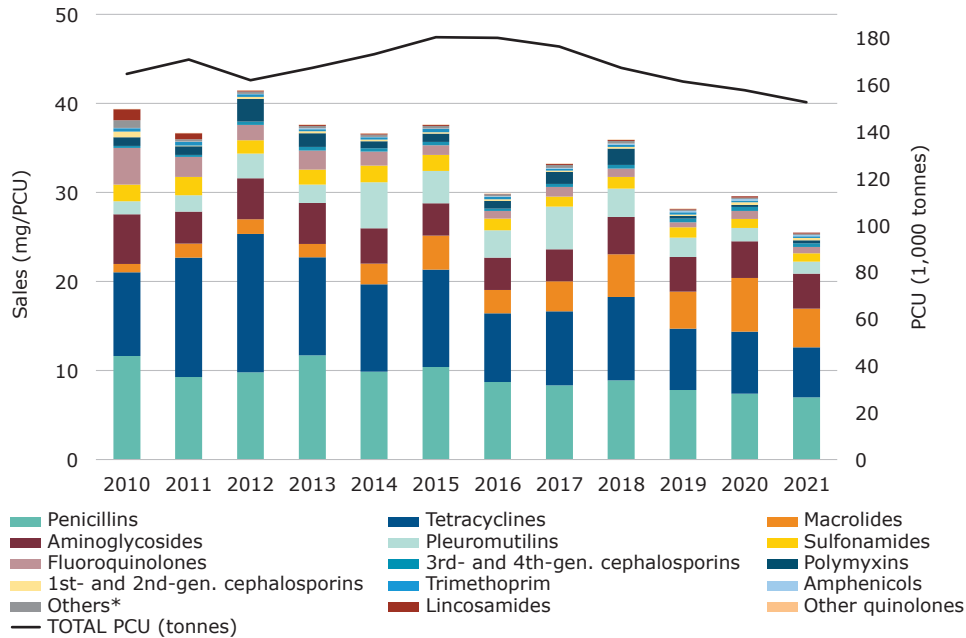


Sales trends (mg/PCU) of antibiotic VMPs for food-producing animals

Sales trends by antibiotic class (mg/PCU) from 2010 to 2021^{1,2}



¹ Sales data sorted from highest to lowest in 2021.

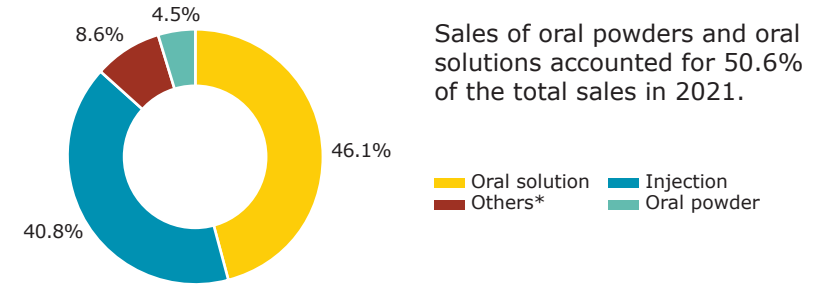
² No sales of other quinolones were reported in 2020 or 2021.

* The class 'Others' includes sales of bacitracin, novobiocin, rifaximin and spectinomycin (classified as other antibacterials in the ATCvet system).

Since 2011:

- ↓ 30.5% overall annual sales (from 36.7 mg/PCU to 25.5 mg/PCU in 2021)
- ↑ 80.4% 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporin sales (from 0.23 mg/PCU to 0.42 mg/PCU in 2021)
- ↓ 68.7% fluoroquinolone sales (from 2.2 mg/PCU to 0.69 mg/PCU in 2021)
- ↓ 100% other quinolone sales (from 0.01 mg/PCU to 0 mg/PCU since 2020)
- ↓ 65.6% polymyxin sales (from 0.99 mg/PCU to 0.34 mg/PCU in 2021)
- ↓ The PCU decreased by 10.6% between 2011 and 2021

Proportion of sales (mg/PCU) by product form in 2021¹

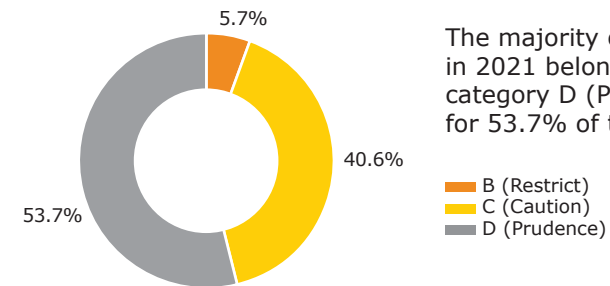


Sales of oral powders and oral solutions accounted for 50.6% of the total sales in 2021.

¹ No sales of premix, bolus and oral paste products in 2021.

* Other forms include intramammary and intrauterine products.

Proportion of sales (mg/PCU) by AMEG categories in 2021¹



The majority of antibiotic VMP sales in 2021 belonged to the AMEG category D (Prudence), accounting for 53.7% of the total sales.

¹ Novobiocin is not included in the AMEG categorisation and accounts for 0.03% of the overall sales.

2021 sales data

In 2021, overall sales decreased by 13.8% in comparison to 2020 (from 29.6 mg/PCU to 25.5 mg/PCU). The three highest selling antibiotics classes were penicillins, tetracyclines and macrolides, which accounted for 27.5%, 22.0% and 17.1% of total sales, respectively.

Country information

During the 2021 data validation, the number of packs sold in 2019 and 2020 for several VMPs were updated, as trade movements had not been corrected previously in these years and sales of special licence products were missing. These changes resulted in a 31% and 4% reduction of mg/PCU values in 2019 and 2020, respectively.

Collection of sales data by animal species started mid-2016.

In 2020, the Food and Veterinary Service carried out random in-depth inspections on the use of antimicrobials on cattle and pig farms. These inspections were launched in 2018. The three-year in-depth examination programme provided information on patterns of antibiotic use, the most common indications and the doses used. The information obtained during the three years shows the same trends: in general, VMPs are used as specified in the package leaflet. However, in some cases there are deviations from the specified conditions of use. These concern the use of medicinal products for prophylaxis, pre-initiation testing for pathogens and their susceptibility to antibiotics, and preference for a wide range of last-generation antibiotics.

Information obtained in 2020 on the use of antimicrobials in pig holdings indicates an upward trend in their use for metaphylaxis and treatment. Every year, the most common diseases in pigs are related to respiratory and gastrointestinal system infections. As the consumption of colistin has decreased, the distribution of macrolide antimicrobials has increased.

In cattle, the most common diagnosis every year is mastitis during lactation or dry periods. Intramammary udder suspensions are regularly used for the prevention of mastitis during the dry period and for prevention of acute mastitis after calving.

From 2021, the collection of information on the specifics and trends of antimicrobial use in food-producing animals in individual holdings will be discontinued, as it is more expedient to invest in automatic or semi-automatic data collection systems, which will regularly collect information on antimicrobials in all food-producing animals on the basis of the requirements laid down in Article 57 of Regulation (EU) 2019/6 on veterinary medicinal products.